



BOROUGH OF SCARBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1970,

by

W. G. EVANS

M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

including

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Chief Public Health Inspector

JOHN PESTER

F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

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and an Appendix

Some notes on Public Health in Scarborough

100 years ago.



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BOROUGH OF SCARBOROUGH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health)	
District Medical Officer)	
(No 10 District of the)	DR W G EVANS M A . M B .
North Riding County)	B Chir . M R C S . L R C P
Council) and Divisional)	D P H
School Medical Officer)	
Deputy Medical Officer of Health)	ELIZABETH R CAMERON
Assistant School Medical Officer)	M B . Ch B . D P H
Chief Public Health and Meat and)	JOHN PESTER F A P H I
Food Inspector)	M R S H
Senior Public Health and Meat)	C HARRISON M A P H I
and Food Inspector)	
Public Health and Meat and Food)	R M MILNER M A P H I
Inspectors)	R KAYE M A P H I (to December)
)	D FIRTH M A P H I
)	C EWING (Pupil)
Superintendent, Medical Baths)	T W WILD M C S P
and Public Slipper Baths)	
Chief Clerk	V R WHEATLEY

In the Borough, the following Committees are concerned with matters of Public Health viz:-

The Housing and Health Committee

The North Riding County Council,
Social Services Committee

Health Department,
Northway,
Scarborough.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the
Housing and Health Committee

I beg to submit my report for the year 1970.

Having referred last year to the remarkably constant figure for the population over the last 10 years, I have this year to record a fall of over 400 in this figure. There is also a fall in the number of births of 117. This may be due to the increased publicity and clinic services for Family Planning.

The table of notifications of Infectious Diseases includes eleven cases of food poisoning. It must be emphasised that this does not represent the whole picture. The eleven cases were those notified by General Practitioners. There were cases in 29 separate incidents which were brought to the notice of the Health Department by the notifications. Of these 29, 11 incidents proved to be Food Poisoning, the others being virus infections. In the investigation of the Food Poisoning incidents, 66 persons were found to be infected with the organisms causing the poisoning. Food poisoning on this scale is not unusual nowadays and throws a considerable extra burden on the staff of the Health Department. Education of food handlers is of paramount importance. Unfortunately a considerable proportion of the labour force including foreigners, students and other immigrants come to Scarborough just for the season and at this time are far too busy to attend training courses.

I beg to remain,

Mr. Chairman, Miss Slarke and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W.G. EVANS,

M.A., M.B., B.Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

BOROUGH OF SCARBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1970.

Statistics and Social Conditions

The following is a summary of the statistics and social conditions:-

Marriages	...	...	...	410
Marriage rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	9.74
Number of inhabited properties including flats (at 31st December, 1970)	...	...	...	15,253
" " uninhabited houses at 31st December, 1970				516
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1970				£2,143,764
Estimated sum represented by a penny rate revised for 1970/71	...	...	...	£8,461
Number of new houses and flats built by the Corporation				
" " houses and flats erected privately			...	122
" " flats, by conversion, privately	...		...	32
" " flats, by conversion by the Corporation			...	20
Hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	1478.1
Total Rainfall	...	...	...	21.61 ins.
Prevailing Wind	...	...	...	West

UNEMPLOYMENT

Maximum total on the Unemployment Register was in January, 1970, when the figures were as follows:-

<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1,472	281	1,753

VITAL STATISTICS

Year	Population	Births Live and Still	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Pop. Adjusted	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Pop. Adjusted	TOTAL Infant Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Still Births	Rate per 1,000 Total Births
1970	42,080	514	14.0	784	12.3	11	22.0	9	18.0
1969	42,500	631	17.1	823	12.4	8	13.0	9	14.0
1968	42,510	576	15.65	828	12.3	11	19.3	7	12.1
1967	42,200	608	14.3	736	10.8	10	16.6	5	8.4
1966	42,040	602	16.7	803	12.6	12	20.2	9	14.9
England and Wales 1970		794823	16.0	575208	11.7	14269	18.0	10341	13.0

BIRTHS

Total Births

	Live		TOTAL	Still		TOTAL	Grand TOTAL
	Male	Female		Male	Female		
Legitimate	222	215	437	7	1	8	445
Illegitimate	32	36	68	..	1	1	69
	254	251	505	7	2	9	514

Illegitimate live births per cent of
total live births 13.0

914 births took place in the Borough in 1970 (compared with 1,034 in 1969).

Of the 914 births, 492 related to Borough residents (compared with 631 in 1969).

Of the 492 births to Scarborough residents, 33 were born at home, 459 in hospital (93.3%). Also recorded are 22 births to Scarborough residents confined outside the Borough.

Infant Mortality Rates

	<u>BOROUGH</u>	<u>ENGLAND AND WALES</u>
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	22	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 Legitimate live births ...	16	17
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate live births ...	59	26
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (death under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	18	12
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (death under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	12	11
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births) ...	29	23
Maternal Mortality 	Nil	0.18

DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough Total</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Death from all causes	350	434	784	575,208

		Female - Age Groups										
75 ⁺	TOTAL	0-1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 ⁺	TOTAL
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
5	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	6
5	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	6
7	30	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	2	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	4	6	15
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
-	13	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	10	18
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	5
1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
68	132	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	31	121	164
7	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	13	15
22	43	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	15	82	102

CAUSE OF DEATH	Male - Age Groups								
	0-1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4
Influenza	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	7
Bronchitis and Emphysema	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5
Asthma	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Peptic Ulcer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth injury, Difficult Labour etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms & Ill Defined Conditions	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
All Other Accidents	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Suicide and Self Inflicted Injuries	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	-
All Other External Causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	7	1	-	-	3	7	19	47	117

		Female - Age Groups										
75 ⁺	TOTAL	0-1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 ⁺	TOTAL
4	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	15	20
2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	4
6	17	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	12	17
9	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	6
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	6	9
-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	5
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
149	350	4	1	1	1	1	5	12	31	87	291	434

INQUESTS

The Borough Coroner held 49 inquests in 1970 relating to the deaths of 27 residents, and 22 non-residents. In addition 128 deaths were certified by the Coroner, after post-mortem without inquest.

The following table shows the causes of death and the age groups of the 27 residents upon whom inquests were held:-

	0-1	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 ⁺	TOTAL
Falls at Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7
Other Falls	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Road Accidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Carbon Monoxide	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Burning	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Drug Overdose	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	6
Hypothermia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Drowning	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Under Nourishment	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Natural Causes	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
	1	1	0	1	2	8	14	27

INFANT MORTALITY

Of the 11 infant deaths, 4 were illegitimate. The Sub-joined table gives details of the deaths:-

CAUSE	Under one month	One month to one year	TOTAL
Accident	0	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Congenital Anomalies	3	0	3
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	2	0	2
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	3	0	3
	9	2	11

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notification of infectious diseases received during 1970 and the previous 3 years are as follows:-

	1970	1969	1968	1967
Scarlet Fever	7	6	16	1
Whooping Cough	18	5	10	51
Measles	589	8	366	148
Dysentery	3	4	10	2
Erysipelas	0	0	2	0
Meningococcal Infection	1	0	0	2
Malaria	1	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	0	4	1
Food Poisoning	11	5	0	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	12	10	9
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0	0
Infective Jaundice	3	3	2	0

Food Poisoning

There were three general outbreaks, five family outbreaks and three sporadic cases of food poisoning during the year. There were also 18 other incidents of suspected food poisoning which proved to be due to virus infection.

Tuberculosis

There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year. 7 new cases were notified compared with 13 in 1969.

The Mass Radiography Unit continued to be located at the William Street Coach Park by permission of the Borough Council and sessions were held from 6.15 to 7.30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings each month.

761 Males and 1,156 Females attended the evening sessions and 40 cases were referred to The Chest Clinic.

In addition a further 1,023 Males and 564 Females were examined at other sites in Scarborough during the year and a further 18 cases referred to The Chest Clinic.

Diagnoses

Sarcoidosis	...	...	...	4
Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6
Lung Abscess	...	...	...	1
Bronchiectasis	...	...	...	1
Chronic Bronchitis	...	...	...	1
Bronchial Carcinoma	...	...	...	6
Inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	17
Pulmonary Infarct	...	...	...	1
Emphysema	...	...	...	1
Mastectomy Radiation Fibrosis	...	...	...	1
Pneumoconiosis	...	...	...	1
Virus Infection	...	...	...	1
Virus Pneumonia	...	...	...	4
Virus Pneumonitis	...	...	...	1
Atrial Fibrillation	...	...	...	1
Fibrosis	...	...	...	2
No apparent disease	...	...	...	7
Not yet diagnosed	...	...	...	2
TOTAL				<u>58</u>

VENEREAL DISEASES

The Consultant Venereologist at St. Mary's Hospital Special Clinic has kindly supplied the following details for entry in this report.

NEW CASES IN 1970 (SCARBOROUGH BOROUGH ONLY)

Age in Years	Sex	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	Non-Gonococcal Urethritis	Others	TOTAL
Under 16	M				1	1
	F					
16 - 17	M			1	1	2
	F		1		4	5
18 - 19	M		3	5	7	15
	F		3		10	13
20 - 24	M		6	10	11	27
	F		3		10	13
25 and over	M		8	7	8	23
	F		4		7	11
TOTAL			28	23	59	110

The following table relates to attendances and new cases from the whole of the area served by the Special Clinic at St. Mary's Hospital, Scarborough.

Year	Sessions	Attendances	New Cases
1970	98	536	173
1969	102	582	127
1968	102	535	141
1967	101	441	108
1966	51	345	112
1965	51	226	81

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

(a) SMALLPOX

Records relating to the primary vaccination of 318 residents under 16 years of age and the re-vaccination of 59 residents under 16 years of age were received during the year. Of the 318 primary vaccinations, 197 related to children under 2 years of age.

Records of 34 vaccinations and 169 re-vaccinations were also received relating to residents above 16 years of age.

(b) POLIOMYELITIS

Completed courses of oral vaccine given during the year are set out in the following table:-

Oral Vaccine		
	Number of Persons vaccinated	
	Primary Courses	Reinforcing Courses
Pre-school children	1,297	55
School children	47	403
TOTAL	1,344	458

(c) DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND MEASLES

The following table sets out information as to numbers of Scarborough children who completed immunisation during 1970, viz:-

Rubella	Measles	Diphtheria	Diphtheria and Tetanus	Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	Tetanus	Booster Doses
279	609	2	51	634	21	393

MISCELLANEOUS

(1) THE MEDICAL BATHS

Yearly figures of attendance

PHYSIOTHERAPY AND HYDROTHERAPY	4,374
TURKISH BATHS	2,178
	<u>6,552</u>

Summary of Principal Cases Treated

DISEASES OF RHEUMATIC AETIOLOGY INCLUDING CERVICAL SPONDYLOSIS	710
" " " RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	8
" " " CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	12
" " " C. N.	15
HERNIATION OF NUCLEUS PULPOSUS	62
SOFT TISSUE INJURIES	85
FRACTURES AND OTHER BONY INJURIES	36

Summary of Treatment Given

ELECTROTHERAPY	407
ULTRA SHORT WAVE DIATHERMY	2,423
MASSAGE AND EXERCISES	2,111
MANIPULATION AND TRACTION	112
WAX BATHS AND HYDROTHERAPY	98
ULTRA VIOLET IRRADIATION	405
MICRO WAVE THERAPY	78
ULTRA SONIC THERAPY	92

(2) WATER SUPPLIES

The Water Engineer kindly provided the following information for inclusion in this Annual Report.

The Water Supply of the Borough of Scarborough is satisfactory both in quality and quantity; and does not show plumbosolvent properties. During the year work commenced on the extension and renewal of small diameter mains, and the rotary boring of a 350 ft. borehole at Cayton.

New schemes completed during the year included 245 yards of 15" dia. mains at Springhill Reservoir, 388 yards of small dia. mains to serve new properties and 204 yards of mains renewals.

Bacteriological Tests

A total of 577 samples were taken from the distribution system, (mostly from consumer taps). Of these 5 were found on the initial sampling, to be unsatisfactory but on subsequent re-sampling all were proved to be satisfactory. In no case was there any indication that the water supplied was anything but wholesome.

Chemical Analyses

26 samples were taken for chemical analysis during 1970.

Total hardness of Irton Water was 198 p.p.m. of which approximately 31.8% was permanent hardness.

Total hardness of Cayton Water was 277 p.p.m. of which approximately 37.9% was permanent hardness.

Total hardness of Osgodby Water was 276 p.p.m. of which 42% was permanent hardness.

Mains Supply

Only 2 dwellings within the Borough do not have a mains water supply. This is due to topographical reasons. At 31st December, 1970, a total of 16,041 dwellinghouses, flats etc., were connected to the mains. It is estimated that a population of 7 has not a mains water supply, the rest of the population of the town being supplied from public water mains.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following information relating to Sewerage and Housing.

(3) SEWERAGE

Only 10 houses in the Borough are not connected to sewers.

(4) HOUSING

During 1970, 122 new houses and flats were built by private enterprise. In addition 32 new flats were developed by private enterprise by conversion and 20 by the Corporation.

(5) LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory Service at Hull provides laboratory services for the Health Department, submitting reports on pathological specimens, samples of milk, ice-cream and water.

(6) BYELAWS

During the year new Bye-laws were brought into force with respect to pleasure boats and vessels.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 47,
AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

It was necessary during the year to implement this section on one occasion only. This section relates to the compulsory removal to hospital or other institution of persons not receiving proper care and attention in their own homes.

On this occasion an elderly lady 83 was moved to St. Mary's Home and after awhile to St. Mary's Hospital where she appears to have settled.

(8) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 50

During 1970 arrangements were made for the burial of four persons under this section. One was an unidentified male washed up on the South Beach, the others were a female 60, a male 70 and a male toddler 2 10/12 years. In all cases funds were not available from other sources to arrange burial.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

The following services are provided in the Borough by the North Riding of Yorkshire County Council as the Local Health Authority, viz:-

NAME OF CLINIC	PLACE WHERE HELD	DAY AND TIME OF MEETING
<u>OBSTETRIC CLINICS</u>		
Hospital Booking Clinic, Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Alternate Tuesdays a.m. by appointment.
<u>RELAXATION AND MOTHERCRAFT CLASSES</u>		
Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Wednesday weekly 2 p.m.
<u>ANTE NATAL CLINIC</u>		
Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Friday weekly 2 p.m.
"	Eastfield Clinic	Tuesday weekly 2 p.m.
<u>POST-NATAL CLINIC</u>		
Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Friday, weekly at 2 p.m. (except last Friday in each month).
"	Westway, Eastfield	2nd Tuesday each month at 2 p.m.
<u>INFANT WELFARE CENTRES</u>		
Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Monday and Thursday weekly, 2 p.m.
"	Westway, Eastfield	Monday and Wednesday weekly, 2 p.m.

NAME OF CLINIC	PLACE WHERE HELD	DAY AND TIME OF MEETING
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ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	1st and 3rd Friday by appointment.
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IMMUNISATION CLINICS

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	1st, 2nd or 4th Wednesday in each month. By appointment.
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"	Westway, Eastfield	1st or 3rd Tuesday or 1st Friday in each month. By appointment.
---	--------------------	--

TODDLERS' CLINIC

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Thursday weekly, 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
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CERVICAL CYTOLOGY

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	By appointment.
"	Westway Clinic, Eastfield	By appointment.

CHIROPODY SERVICE

Scarborough	Chiropody Clinic, 15 Belgrave Crescent	By appointment.
"	13 Elders Street	By appointment.

NAME OF CLINIC	PLACE WHERE HELD	DAY AND TIME OF MEETING
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CHIROPODY SERVICE (continued)

Scarborough	Westway Clinic, Eastfield	By appointment.
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"	Private Chiropodists' Surgeries	By appointment.
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SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

MINOR AILMENTS CLINICS

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Monday and Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
"	Northstead School	Wednesday weekly, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
"	Hinderwell School, Seamer Road	Thursday weekly, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
"	Westway, Eastfield	Wednesday morning, weekly.
"	Raincliffe School	Wednesday, weekly, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

DOCTORS' SPECIAL SESSIONS

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Monday weekly, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Wednesday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
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OPHTHALMIC CLINIC

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Monday weekly by appointment only, 9.30 a.m.
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NAME OF CLINIC	PLACE WHERE HELD	DAY AND TIME OF MEETING
----------------	------------------	-------------------------

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

Psychiatrist Sessions

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	By appointment only Thursday a.m. and p.m. Friday a.m.
"	Throxenby Hall School	Wednesday a.m.

Remedial Teaching Sessions

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	By appointment only Monday, Wednesday and Friday a.m. and Tuesday p.m.
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DENTAL CLINICS

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Monday to Friday, By appointment only.
"	Westway Clinic, Eastfield	Monday to Thursday, By appointment only.

SPEECH CLINIC

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	By appointment.
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PAEDIATRIC CLINIC

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	By appointment.
-------------	-----------------	-----------------

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	By appointment.
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REMEDIAL EXERCISES

Scarborough	Northway Clinic	Tuesday and Friday weekly, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
"	Westway Clinic, Eastfield	Thursday afternoon, By appointment.

N.B. Bank Holidays excepted in all cases.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING

Eleven nurses are employed full-time in the Borough by the County Council on Home Nursing duties. Two whole-time midwives and one combined duties nurse (i.e. midwifery and home nursing) are also employed full-time.

HEALTH VISITING

Eight whole-time Health Visitors/School Nurses operate in the Borough, their duties including visiting children from the age of 2 weeks until 15 years of age. A steadily increasing proportion of their time is spent in the care of the aged. In addition they attend the various clinics, follow-up notifications of infectious diseases, visit tuberculosis patients at home, investigate social conditions relating to applications for service of Home Helps, boarding out of children or adoption of children. A Health Visitor is also employed whole-time for the domiciliary visiting of diabetic and special clinic patients.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Helps are available (on application supported by Medical evidence) to render temporary assistance in the homes of applicants in the following categories, viz:-

- (i) Women having domiciliary confinement;
- (ii) Persons requiring help because of sickness or pregnancy of housewife or her absence in hospital;
- (iii) Other cases of acute illness, particularly of children where there is a number of healthy children to be cared for, and
- (iv) Aged persons or chronic sick persons.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

An Ambulance Depot (open day and night) is maintained at Dean Road, Scarborough, where Ambulance Service facilities are available on request by Hospital Medical Staff, General Practitioners, Police Officers and, in cases of sudden emergency, members of the public.

AFTER-CARE OF TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER ILLNESS

By arrangement, the Scarborough and District Council of Social Service provides, on behalf of the North Riding County Council, after-care facilities for tuberculosis patients as well also for those suffering from other illnesses.

Additional bedding, clothing etc., can be provided and loan of sick room equipment obtained, on recommendations by doctors and or district nurses.

FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

The Scarborough Family Planning Clinic hold sessions at Northway Clinic on the first two and the last Thursday evenings in each month, and on the first and second Monday evenings at Eastfield Clinic. The premises are made available to the Association by the County Council, who intend to provide the Family Planning Service from 1st January, 1971.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR, 1970.

I have pleasure in submitting my sixteenth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors.

Staff

Mr. R. Kaye left the Department in December on being appointed a Senior Food Inspector at Kingston upon Hull.

The Housing Act, 1969, laid down procedure for the issue by the Local Authority of Qualification Certificates to owners who wish to apply for adjustments to the rents of their houses which must be in a satisfactory structural condition and provided with bathroom etc. facilities. The Health Inspectors deal with these applications, which necessitate full inspections of the properties concerned.

Valuable routine work under Food Hygiene was done, hundreds of inspections of food premises being carried out and many improvements recorded.

Attention is drawn to the section on Poultry in this report. In recent years several outbreaks of food poisoning in this country and abroad have been associated with poultry, especially spit-roasted chickens. Insufficient cooking and unsatisfactory methods of handling and preparation have been causes in these outbreaks. Although it is known that the large firms of Poultry Packers are alive to the problems involved and are collaborating with the Public Health Laboratory Service in tests of the thawing and cooking of birds and the examination of giblets, I feel that more action should be taken in order to reduce the hazards of food poisoning. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food should give some priority to eliminating infection in the flocks, and Poultry Packers should inform customers fully on the thawing, handling and cooking of frozen poultry. Until a satisfactory position is reached in relation to infection in the live bird, serious consideration should be given to the discarding of giblets.

Summary of Inspections made of various premises

				<u>Number of Visits</u>
Accumulations	...	...	...	229
Animals and Birds	...	...	...	147
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	24
Cinemas, etc.	...	...	...	12
Clean Air Act: Visits re Complaints			...	31
Observations of Chimneys			...	47
Boilerhouses visited			...	14
Drains (choked or defective)	...	...	...	236
Dirty or verminous premises	...	...	...	18
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	...	...	93
(without mechanical power)	...	...	...	32
Houses (for repair and improvement, or closure)				1,193
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	21
Interviews with owners, builders, etc.			...	383
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	308
Miscellaneous Matters	...	...	...	161
Noise Nuisance	...	...	...	6
Offensive Smells	...	...	...	82
Offices, Shops etc. Act	...	...	...	359

				<u>Number of visits</u>
Overcrowding	...	...	...	6
Pavings - Yards and Passages	...	...	...	120
Piggeries	...	...	...	15
Rag Flock Act	...	...	...	3
Shipping and Fish Fiers	...	...	...	140
Vermin - Rats and Mice (special investigations)				372
" - other than Rats and Mice				251
Number of general complaints received and investigated	...	...	...	383
Number of drains tested	...	...	...	80
" " drains and waste pipes cleared or repaired				16
" " disinfections after infectious disease				9
" " disinfestations of verminous premises				87 premises

Notices Served

Informal Notices (Public Health Acts)	...	136
Statutory Notices (Public Health Acts)	...	7
Informal Notices (Factories Act, 1961)	...	13
" " (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949)		11
" " (Clean Air Act)	...	3
" " (Offices, Shops etc. Act, 1963)		30
" " (Housing Act - repairs)	...	47
" " (Housing Act - overcrowding)	...	1

ACTION IN CONNECTION WITH UNSATISFACTORY
HOUSING CONDITIONS

1,193 visits were made under the Housing and Public Health Acts to ascertain the fitness of houses for occupation.

Clearance and Closing Procedure

Two houses, subject to Closing Orders, were thoroughly repaired and reconditioned, and the Orders revoked.

House Repair and Improvement Procedure.

During the year, eighteen tenants of houses were rehoused by the Corporation on the owners' undertaking to recondition the properties before re occupation. 17 houses were reconditioned on outstanding undertakings.

Sixty houses, which were the subject of application for Improvement Grants, were inspected. Twenty seven houses were in good structural condition; the remainder required some repairing and eighteen of those were satisfactorily repaired during the year.

64 complaints regarding miscellaneous items of disrepair and dampness were investigated. The following is a summary of action taken under the repairs sections of the Public Health and Housing Acts:

Number of notices issued	70
" " houses made fit by informal action	62
" " houses made fit by statutory action	3

Sixteen houses in multiple occupation involving 79 lettings were inspected and notices sent to owners regarding disrepair and lack of facilities.

17 applications for Qualification Certificates under the Housing Act, 1969, were dealt with.

Overcrowding.

One case of overcrowding was investigated and dealt with by a re-arrangement of use of the rooms in the house.

Food Hygiene.

Routine inspection of food premises was again undertaken, and many improvements carried out during the year. Fifty-two complaints involving food were investigated and twenty-seven complaints regarding conditions at food premises and boarding houses, etc., were dealt with. Inspections were again carried out of premises for which application had been made to advertise in the Scarborough Holiday Guide, comprising hotels, boarding houses and holiday flatlets.

SUMMARY OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE
BOROUGH ON DECEMBER 31ST

	<u>NUMBER</u>
Bakehouses	22
Beer Bottling	1
Cafes, Restaurants and Canteens	194
Confectionery	29
(R) (Pasteurising Plants)	-
(R) (Milkshops (including Depots)	26
Egg Pasteurisation Plants	-
Fried Fish Shops	34
Wet Fish and Shellfish Shops	31
(R) Fish Curer	1
Greengrocers - wholesalers and retailers	53
Grocers - wholesalers and retailers	99
(R) Ice Cream Manufacturers	5
(R) " " Shops (retail sale)	177
(R) " " Depots (wholesale)	1
Licensed Premises	103
(R) Meat Shops (Retail sale and registered for manufacture of sausages and/or cooked meats)	64

		<u>NUMBER</u>
Soft drinks manufacturers	...	1
Sweets and Rock Makers	...	6
Sweet Shops (including wholesalers)	...	99
Miscellaneous (Candy Floss, waffles, frozen foods, etc.)		17

(R) - Registered Premises.

WORK DONE IN CONNECTION WITH FOOD PREMISES

(a) Number of Inspections made

Bakehouses	...	105
Cafes Restaurants and Canteens	...	333
Dairies and Milkshops	...	40
Fried Fish Shops	...	63
Wet Fish and Shell Fish Shops	...	31
Grocers	...	128
Hotels and Boarding Houses	...	342
Ice Cream Premises	...	114
Licensed Premises	...	72
Meat Preparation Premises and Shops	...	149
Other Food Premises	...	166
TOTAL INSPECTIONS		<u>1,543</u>

(b) Number of notices served and complied with:-

The Food Hygiene Regulations: 87 notices served.

74 notices complied with.

SUPERVISION OF THE MILK SUPPLY

Number of Pasteurising Plants (on 31st December) -

" " Milkshops (for sale of graded bottled milk) 96

" " inspections made of above premises 40

SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL AND OTHER EXAMINATIONS

No. of Samples taken	Designation	Results
64	Pasteurised	Satisfied Phosphatase Test - 64 " Methylene Blue Test - 64
2	Sterilised	Satisfied Turbidity Test - 2
16	Untreated	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test - 14 Failed " " " - 2
6	Untreated	Satisfied Biological Tests - 6

Appropriate action was taken in respect of the samples which failed the Methylene Blue Test.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

The following samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Orders:

ARTICLE	Number reported as		TOTAL
	Genuine	Not genuine or below standard	
Baby Food	1	0	1
Chocolates	1	0	1
Ground Almonds	1	0	1
Ice Cream	6	0	6
Lucozade	1	0	1
Meat (Canned)	15	0	15
Milks	75	5	80
Milk (Tinned)	1	0	1
Soft Drinks	4	0	4
Vinegar	1	0	1
	106	5	111

Three of the milk samples were slightly deficient in fat and 2 samples contained a very small amount of extraneous water. All the deficiencies were fully investigated and repeat samples proved satisfactory.

SUPERVISION OF THE MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

Six premises are registered for the manufacture of ice cream. 114 inspections were made of these and retail shop premises, and samples were taken to ensure compliance with Ministry standards.

Bacteriological Standard (Methylene Blue Test)

Number of samples which satisfied the Test

(Grades 1 and 2)	58
------------------	-----	-----	----

Number of samples which failed to satisfy the Test

(Grades 3 and 4)	11
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In the case of adverse reports, investigations as to the cause of failure were made immediately.

POULTRY

In connection with outbreaks of food poisoning locally and with the knowledge of the position nationally that poultry have been implicated, 38 samples of giblets were taken from fresh and frozen birds for bacteriological examination. Fourteen were found to be infected with food poisoning organisms, and long correspondence entered into with the Department of Health and Social Security, the National Association of Poultry Packers Ltd., and individual firms specialising in the processing and preparation of frozen poultry.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The Department continued to do the inspection of carcasses at the Corporation-owned Abattoir at Seamer, working on a rota basis.

The amount of work done during the year is shown in the following table:-

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE

OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and inspected	4 878	95	145	13 624	11 703	Nil
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI						
Whole carcasses condemned	3	2	3	19	21	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	824	14	2	393	1 033	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.9	17.0	3.4	3.0	9.0	-
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	48	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.4	-
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of meat (carcases, parts of carcases and offal) condemned during the year - 12 tons 2 cwts.

Total weight of foodstuffs, other than meat, condemned - 10 tons 2 cwts.

Condemned meat and offal are sold to a large firm of manufacturers of fertilisers and feeding stuffs, in accordance with standard practice. Livers affected by distomatosis ('flukey' livers) are collected by an approved firm for pharmaceutical purposes. All other condemned food is disposed of by the Cleansing Department on the Corporation Tip at Burniston Road.

RAG FLOCK ACT

Seven samples of filling materials were taken and submitted to the Prescribed Analyst under the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1957. All the samples were satisfactory.

SMOKE ABATEMENT (CLEAN AIR ACT AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT)

Forty-seven smoke observations were made under the Clean Air Act, and 14 visits made to boiler-houses. Improvements to boiler plants were made during the year.

Several notifications of intention to install or alter furnaces were considered, and decisions made on the heights of chimneys in connection therewith.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The following is a summary of the number of premises on the Register and the action taken during the year:-

	No. of premises on Register at 31/12/70.	No. of persons employed in registered premises	No. of premises fully inspected during year
OFFICES	232	1,984	28
RETAIL SHOPS	517	2,661	62
WHOLESALE SHOPS AND WAREHOUSES	40	284	6
CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS AND CANTEENS	139	1,550	8
FUEL STORAGE DEPOTS	1	9	1

15 accidents were reported during the year and eleven of these were investigated under the provisions of the Act.

359 visits were made to premises for the purpose of inspection and re-inspection and for giving advice under the Act. 30 notices were issued. The necessary work was completed to make 64 premises satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

There are 271 factories on the Register. 246 inspections were made during the year to ensure compliance with the Act.

The following tables give the information of the work done under the Act:-

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	32	-	-
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	238	198	13	-
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority excluding out-workers' premises	16	16	-	-
TOTAL	271	246	13	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND AND REMEDIED

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were:-				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecutions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	2	2	2
Overcrowding	0	2	2	2	1
Unreasonable temperature	2	2	2	2	0
Inadequate ventilation	2	2	0	2	2
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	0	2	0	2
Sanitary Conveniences:-					
(a) insufficient	2	0	0	0	0
(b) unsuitable or defective	12	7	0	1	0
(c) not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act	1	1	0	1	0
TOTAL	13	8	0	2	0

There are four outworkers in the Borough engaged in making wearing apparel (knitting wool).

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The two rodent operatives dealt with 711 complaints of infestation received during the year. 5,476 visits were made to dwelling houses, business premises etc.

The Corporation Tip and allotments, and the Harbour and piers were subject to regular inspection and baiting. The sewers in the Borough were treated twice during the year, the poison used being fluoroacetamide.

The Public Health Inspectors are responsible for special inspection of premises found to be infested. They generally supervise the work of the rodent operatives, taking charge where defective drains or building structures are found. Routine visits to food premises include a survey for rodents and other insect pests. Twelve notices involving structural defects etc. were complied with.

A summary of the work is given in the following report sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Number of Properties	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
In District	20,424	12
Inspected following NOTIFICATION	688	0
Found to be infested by Common Rat	305	0
Found to be infested by House Mouse	386	0
Inspected in the course of SURVEY	154	12
Found to be infested by Common Rat	72	1
Found to be infested by House Mouse	31	0

JOHN PESTER,

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

PORT HEALTH REPORT

SECTION I - Staff

Table A.

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
W.G. EVANS	Medical Officer of Health	10.2.54.	M.A., M.B., B. Chir., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	District Medical Officer of Health N.R.C.C. Divisional School Medical Officer of Health
JOHN PESTER	Chief Public Health Inspector	1.11.54.	Public Health and Meat and Food Inspector's Certificates	

Address and telephone number of) Health Department, Northway,
the Medical Officer of Health and) Scarborough.
Chief Public Health Inspector) Tel. 63366.

SECTION II - Amount of shipping entering the District during the year.

Table B.

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious diseases on board
			By M.O.H.	By P.H. Inspector	
Foreign Ports	88	23,107	—	87	—
Coastwise	74	1,680	—	—	—
TOTAL	162	24,787	—	87	—

SECTION III - Character of shipping and trade during the year.

Table C.

Passenger Traffic	Number of passengers INWARDS NIL OUTWARDS NIL
Cargo Traffic	Principal IMPORTS Fish; Timber, Fertilizer
Principal Ports from which ships arrive	Scottish and East Coast, Finland, Holland, Sweden, Poland, Russia and Germany.

Section IV - Inland Barge Traffic

Number and tonnage using the district and
places served by the traffic

NIL

Section V - Water Supply

- (1) Source of supply for (a) the district and (b) shipping Town.
- (2) Reports of tests for contamination Satisfactory.
- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of
hydrants and hosepipes Satisfactory.
- (4) Number and sanitary conditions of water boats,
and powers of control by the authority NIL.

Section VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

- (1) List of infected areas (Regulation 6)
Arrangements for the preparation and
amendment of the list, the form of the
list, the persons to whom it is supplied,
and the procedure for supplying it to
those persons. Notifications
sent weekly to
H.M. Customs
and Excise and
the Harbour
Master by post
in letter form.
- (2) Radio Messages
 - (a) Arrangements for sending permission by
radio for ships to enter the District
(Regulation 13) NIL.
 - (b) Arrangements for receiving messages by
radio from ships and for acting thereon
(Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)). Via Harbour
Master.
- (3) Notifications otherwise than by Radio
(Regulation 14 (1) (b)).
Arrangements for receiving notifications
otherwise than by radio and for acting
thereon. Via Harbour
Master.
- (4) Mooring Stations (Regulations 22 to 30).
Situation of stations, and any standing
directions issued under these Regulations. Under directions
of
Harbour Master.
- (5) Arrangements for:-
 - (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious
diseases (other than smallpox) -
(See Section VII) Provided by
Leeds Regional
Hospital Board.
 - (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts Medical Officer
of Health.
 - (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships,
persons, clothing and other articles. Health Department.

Section VII - Smallpox

- (1) Name of isolation hospital to which smallpox cases are sent from the district
- (2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that Hospital by ambulance giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.
- (3) Names of smallpox consultants available
- (4) Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox

Castle Hill Smallpox Hospital,
Cottingham, Near Hull.

North Riding County Council - Vaccinal state satisfactory.

Dr. S.R. Jameson,
Castle Hill Hospital,
Cottingham, Nr. Hull.

Dr. J.T.A. George,
County Hall,
Northallerton.

In accordance with
Part III "Laboratory
Diagnosis of Smallpox"
contained in
Mem. Port 21 of
Ministry of Health.

Section VIII - Venereal Diseases

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

Tuesday of each week
St. Mary's Hospital,
Scarborough - Males
3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Notices displayed.

Section IX - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseases on ships

Table D.

Category	Disease	Number of cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	-	-	-	-
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	-	-	-	-
Cases landed from other ships	-	-	-	-

A short account should be given of the measure taken on arrival by ship of:-

- (a) any cases of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus or relapsing fever included in Table D. There were no such cases.

- (b) any suspected case of any such disease No suspected cases.

Section X - Observations on the occurrence of malaria in ships

No cases notified.

Section XI - Measures taken against ships infected with or suspected for plague

No infected or suspected ships arrived.

Section XII - Measures against rodents in ships from Foreign Ports

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats. | Two rodent operatives employed by the Corporation. |
| (2) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year. | Specimens submitted to Public Health Laboratory Service, Hull -

NIL rats examined |
| (3) Arrangements in the district for de-ratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor. | Poisons - Trapping by Local Authority Rodent Operatives. |
| (4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships. | NIL. |

Table E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from Foreign Ports

Category	Number
Black rats	NIL
Brown rats	"
Species not known	"
Sent for examination	"
Infected with plague	"

Table F.

De-ratting certificates and De-ratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from Foreign Ports.

No. of De-ratting Certificates issued -				No. of De-ratting Exemption Certificates Issued	Total Certificates Issued
After fumigation	After Trapping	After * Poisoning	Total		
HCN Other fumigant (State method)			NIL		

* State poisons used and number of certificates issued after each poison.

Section XIII - Inspection of ships for nuisances

Table G.

Inspections and Notices

Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Nature	No.			
For Hygiene of Crews spaces	87			
For defects	87			
For vermin and conditions prejudicial to health	87			
TOTALS	87			

Section XIV - Public Health (shell-fish) Regulations
1934 and 1948

Information respecting any shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

No shell-fish
layings.

Section XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens
(applicable only to Ports approved
for the landing of aliens)

Not applicable.

Section XVI - Miscellaneous

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious diseases.

By Health Department
on behalf of the
Scarborough Borough
Council.

W. G. EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health,
Scarborough.

SOME NOTES ON PUBLIC HEALTH IN SCARBOROUGH

100 YEARS AGO.

We are at present in the throes of the biggest upheaval ever deliberately planned in local government in this country: the most far reaching changes suggested are aimed at the National Health Services.

It therefore seems to me to be worthy of more than a passing reference, that this year is the hundredth since the appointment of the first Medical Officer of Health of Scarborough. I would add that by 1974 if the present plans are implemented the Medical Officer of Health as such will have disappeared altogether. Perhaps then, our first Medical Officer of Health should be accorded a special place in the town's social history.

The first incumbent was Dr. J.W. Taylor, M.D., D.Sc. He was appointed in 1871 and held the post until 1891 and was a general practitioner and part-time Medical Officer of Health.

The population of Scarborough in 1871 was 24,259 and by 1891 had risen to 33,776. The vital statistics of those days present a grim picture, the death rate and birth rate in 1872 both being approximately double the present figure. This state of affairs was, however, general throughout the country and excites a comment from Dr. Taylor only when there is some variation. There were 835 deaths and 523 births in a population of approximately 25,000. In 1970 there were 784 deaths and 514 births in a population of 42,080.

Looking through the reports of those years, one finds recurring themes arising from the immense problems of the time. There are two of these which stand out, the first being the infant mortality especially of illegitimate babies and the second the prevalence of serious infectious disease.

In regard to the first of these, the following paragraph refers to the year 1877:

"Of the 849 births, 73 were illegitimate children, and of this number (73) no less than 34 have died. This is a considerable increase over the year 1876, when out of 67 illegitimate births, only 19 have died. I have now as far as possible obtained a list of those houses where illegitimate children are nursed. It was my duty during the past

year to bring specially under the notice of the Borough Magistrates, a case in which no less than three illegitimate children died in one house in the course of a fortnight. In this case I believe that the occupier of the house in question acted entirely in ignorance of the existence of an act framed for the better protection of infant life; and I had no reason to suspect that the children committed to her care were otherwise than properly cared for. Under the circumstances the Magistrates inflicted a fine of £1 and costs".

In his report for 1879 he remarks as follows: "Of the 975 births, 77 were illegitimate children, and of this number (77) no less than 29 have died. In the year 1878, 86 illegitimate children were born of whom 36 died. In going over the localities in which these deaths amongst illegitimate children have occurred, I find some localities have furnished a very heavy mortality, and now that I have obtained a careful record of these districts I expect there will be no difficulty in tracing the habitations of 'baby farming', which I have strong grounds to believe exist in Scarborough".

In the following year, 1880, another aspect of the same theme appears: "Of the 1,006 births 73 were illegitimate children, and of this number (73) no less than 37, or rather more than half, have died. In the year 1879, 77 illegitimate children were born, of whom 29 died. I find that a very large proportion of these children die during the first month of their existence: indeed from the very little care which is taken of them in the majority of instances, it is almost a wonder that any survive at all. In going carefully over the records of illegitimacy in this town, which I have now noted for several years, these children are mostly the offspring of domestic servants, who cannot afford to forfeit their situations, so are under the necessity of placing their children out to nurse, and, as I have frequently stated, as soon as the natural food of the child is withdrawn, improper food is given, resulting in a fatal issue".

This was the period when the evil effects of the industrial revolution were being vigorously attacked. Dr. Taylor's reports are full of accounts of work done on drainage, sewerage and the improvement of roads, yards and passages. The Inspector of Nuisances was also busy and many cases ended in the Magistrates' Courts.

These changes undoubtedly improved the general health of the population in regard to the non-infectious diseases. The record of mortality due to infectious diseases shows that this was not the case in these. If anything some, particularly from tuberculosis, tended to worsen during this period.

The reasons for this are fairly obvious. First, notification of infectious disease was non-existent in the early years of the period and apparently on a voluntary and very unreliable basis later. Dr. Taylor frequently complains that the first intimation he gets of the occurrence of a serious infection is a death certificate. Secondly, the science of bacteriology was still in its infancy and had not started to have any impact on the major killing diseases. The one shining exception was smallpox. In 1872 there was an epidemic and 35 persons died. There is no indication of the number of cases. In later reports the protection afforded by vaccination is emphasised repeatedly and the records of the Vaccination Officer's work are impressive. The 1872 epidemic appears to have been the last, though there were sporadic cases mostly imported from time to time.

The complete table of deaths from zymotic diseases in 1872 reads as follows:-

Fevers, continued & Typhoid	8
Fever, Rheumatic	1
Measles	6
Diarrhoea & dysentery	34
Diphtheria	1
Smallpox	35
Croup	3
Erysipelas	3
Whooping Cough	1
	92

This year was exceptional because of the smallpox epidemic. Apart from this the mortality of these diseases was fairly constant over the next few years. The total number of deaths from 1873 to 1885 inclusive was 600 - an average of 46 per year. Diarrhoea contributed nearly half these deaths with a yearly average of 22.

As one would expect, this terrible and continuing slaughter of infants is the subject of frequent comments by Dr. Taylor. In his report for 1875, in discussing the aetiology of summer diarrhoea he quotes the Registrar General who states "Beyond an impression that the disease is of excrementitious origin, and the certainty of the powerful influence exercised by high temperature upon its fatality, very little is known about epidemic diarrhoea".

Dr. Taylor then remarks "I can hardly see that in the case of this Borough in particular, when the mean average temperature for the months of July, August and September, only exceeded the corresponding period of the year 1874 by 0.87° , that this small increase should be the sole cause for an increase in the number of infantile deaths from diarrhoea". We know much more about it now, though it still takes its toll of infant life.

Dr. Taylor mentions Scarlet Fever a number of times, usually to impress on the Corporation the seriousness of the disease and the absolute necessity for isolation as the only means of control. He also stresses the need for the co-operation of patients and relatives in preventing the spread in schools and the community at large by adequate isolation and quarantine arrangements at home. He says "Taking scientific knowledge as it now stands Scarlet Fever cannot be effectually limited except in proportion as the public is prepared to enforce thoroughly strict isolation rules against it; and to quote the remarks of Dr. Simon, one of the most able of sanitary pioneers - (later Sir John Simon, Medical Officer to the Privy Council) - "Such rules would interfere with certain permitted freedoms: that children should at their parents' discretion, carry infection from families into schools; that school masters should at their discretion disperse infected children haphazard about the country; that householders should at their discretion send infected wash-things to common-laundries; that lodging house keepers should at their discretion conceal the infectedness of their apartments; and that all sorts of people in all sorts of ways, should at their discretion endanger others".

These people to whom Dr. Simon refers are still with us today. They are the vociferous minorities who hinder and sometimes succeed in delaying the operation of Public Health measures, to the detriment of the health and well-being of the majority, in the name of freedom.

There is one omission from Dr. Taylor's reports that surprises me. Apart from the tables of mortality from different diseases there are no references to tuberculosis which, as far as children were concerned, was the biggest killer of them all - "the Captain of the Men of Death". In the ten years from 1872 phthisis alone killed 308 people at an average rate of 31 per year. Bronchitis accounted for about the same number. Other forms of tuberculosis are not specified. Lack of pathological and radiological aids made ante-mortem diagnosis difficult. These other forms of tuberculosis were presumably recorded as deaths from Convulsions, Inflammation and disease of the brain, Mesenteric Disease, Atrophy, Wasting Disease etc.

Dr. Taylor retired from his post as Medical Officer of Health of Scarborough in 1891. During his period in office the population had increased from 25,000 to 33,776. The Infant Mortality Rate had decreased from 238 to 150. In other respects the vital statistics were no more than those of the country as a whole. On the sanitary side, considerable activity and achievement is obvious from the reports. The inspection of meat and other foods, houses, common lodge houses and nuisances was highly organised and apparently effective. Until 1883 most of this work was in the hands of an Inspector of Nuisances. He became the first Sanitary Inspector in that year.

The textbooks of today are full of the works of the pioneers of the last century, Chadwick, Simon and others. Dr. Taylor's reports provide us with accounts of the work of the man in the field. He translates Parliamentary Reports, Acts of Parliament and national surveys into social and medical problems and relates them to people. He combined industry and humanity and professional dedication to a remarkable degree. His name means little to the people of Scarborough but they and the Community Physician of the future will always have reason to be grateful to him.

The concluding paragraph of Dr. Taylor's first annual report makes a fitting end to my notes on the centenary of his appointment.

"I need not remind the Town Council that a constant and rigid inspection of the whole town, with immediate attention to all defects, must be the business of an active and intelligent Inspector of

Nuisances and that the Inspector, instead of waiting for complaints, must by his diligence detect and remedy any sanitary defects that he may from time to time observe. Now that sanitary matters are brought so prominently before the public, I feel sure that Scarborough will not be found behind in this respect, and that this beautiful town will ever retain the name which it so justly deserves 'The Queen of British Watering Places'.

W.G. EVANS,

Health Department,

Scarborough.

July, 1971.



